



State of Illinois

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mary A. Gade, Director

2200 Churchill Road, Springfield, IL 62794-9276

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 29, 1995  
TO: Files - BOL  
FROM: Tim Murphy *TJM*  
SUBJECT: L0998160003 -- LaSalle County  
LaSalle/Carus Chemical Company  
Superfund/Technical Reports

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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### MEETING SUMMARY 29 NOVEMBER 1995 10:00 am

A meeting with Carus Chemical Company representatives (attendance list attached) was held at the Agency to discuss issues concerning: 1) the remedial investigation of Carus Chemical's northern holdings - the Muddies aka Apollo Warehouse; 2) the proposed schedule of future events and report submissions by Carus; and, 3) the segregation of the Carus Chemical properties from the proposed NPL site - M&H;

The boundaries of each site: Carus Chemical; LaSalle Rolling Mills and the Muddies were discussed and pointed out on the photo maps. Carus's primary concern is for separation of the Carus Chemical Properties from the NPL site. Tim M. stated the document - Technical Summary Report Supporting Separation of Carus Chemical Company Properties from Surrounding CERCLIS Site Activities, November, 1995, lacks any basis without the submission of the Phase II report to back it up. Larry E. said that the Agency would need time to rule on the separation and that the Superfund Memorandum of Agreement may be tested, however the document needs review for comparison with the Site Assessment Team's Interrogatories and other liability issues. The Agency would let Carus know within 2 months, by January 31, 1996 if they can separate the site.

Briefing by Roger T.: The Muddies as known by Carus as the Apollo Warehouse property, was purchased sometime in the late 1960's. The site operated as the Apollo Metal Works in the 1930's. From the late 1960's and throughout the 1970's, Carus Chemical pumped K-plus sludge up to the Muddies. The site operated under an NPDES permit and was closed in 1980. Late monitoring by Carus indicates an elevated level of Magnesium Sulfate.

Roger T. thought that Carus Chemical had been following a progression of investigations as discussed at the previous meeting (8 Feb 95), and wanted to know why the Muddies site was to be listed on CERCLIS. Tom C. said that under the USEPA Cooperative Agreement, this site was due for investigation this FY.

Roger T. and Mark S. asked how their northern property had been

SCREENED  
*MM*

discovered. Bob C. said the Agency was made aware by citizens that various PRP's have alleged to dump at the site.: 1) National Sheet Metal; 2) the prior owner of New Jersey Zinc - Huntsman Chemical - Foster Grant; 3) Apollo Sheet Metal on the south end of the Muddies prior to the strike; and 4) Midnight dumpers via drums observed in aerial photographs. Roger T. added that Pohar has dumped concrete debris on property north end of the Muddies.

Roger T. said that various citizens groups (ie. SOLVE - Save Our Little Vermillion Environment) have lobbied to get Illinois Valley Cement from moving closer and blasting the city apart, insinuating that the citizens would use the claim that the Muddies is environmental unstable so that the cement company will stop blasting.

Roger T. also said that in the previous meeting with the Agency, agreements were made that the Muddies would be done as a Phase III. And since Carus was not a fortune 500 company, funding of these environmental projects had to be done over a period of time so as to not create financial problems within the company.

Larry E. interjected due to time constraints, that the investigation of the Muddies be done in cooperation with Tom's group so as to expedite the process period of review and comment.

Other dialogue followed that stemmed on Carus Chemical's perturbing delay of submissions due to the following of proposed House/Senate bills altering environmental regulation, and the observations of the similar DePue - New Jersey Zinc site. We also talked about changing the Agency priorities, such as delaying the Baseline Risk Assessment in leu of doing the investigation of the Muddies first.

Talk of the CERCLA style investigation of the 13 acre Muddies followed. Per Tom C. and Bob C., the investigation would need to include looking at/sampling for: 1) ~~any sources ID'ed within the Muddies~~; 2) impact to GW; 3) ~~impact to SW~~; 4) runoff pathways, specifically the tunnel dug ~~from the Muddies~~. No more than 25 samples for needed all media involved, however analysis will need to cover all the compounds of the Target Compound/Analyte List.

Roger T. was frustrated and said why don't the Agency go ahead and investigate the Muddies on your own. Mark S. paraphrased (softened) the words and thoughts of Roger T.

Roger T. and Nandra W. discussed the time frame for determining whether Carus would do the Muddies investigation. They decided they would let the Agency know by December 20th (1995). Pending the acceptance of doing the Muddies investigation, a site meeting would take place sometime in mid-January to discuss the Muddies sample plan. The Muddies Work Plan would be submitted by January 31, 1996. Nandra W. and Roger T. agreed that the Phase II report

would be submitted by January 12, 1996.

Nandra W. asked if it would be possible to use pre-approved HASP/QAPP and Tim M. said that would be ok since the previously submitted plans follow the USEPA CLP guidelines for which a CERCLA style investigation would need.

The meeting ended at approximately 11:30 am.

#### **Agreed to Schedules**

**Agency decision by January 31, 1996:** As to whether Carus Chemical can do a separate cleanup under the Pre-Notice Program from that of the Proposed NPL site - M & H.

**Carus Chemical decision - by December 20, 1995:** Whether they will do the Muddies CERCLA investigation.

**Carus Chemical submission - by January 12, 1996:** The Phase II Site Investigation Report.

**Carus Chemical submission - by January 31, 1996:** Pending the December 20, 1995 decision, the submission of the Muddies Investigation Work Plan.

Rob Lucas  
Gregory Rathliff  
TOM CRAUSE

LARRY EASTED

BOB CASPER

Timothy J. Murphy

MARK SARGIS

Nandra Weeks

ROGER C. THREDE

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Illinois EPA Site Assess 782-696

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